

post-authorization studies and reevaluation of completed projects.

§ 279.2 Applicability.

This regulation is applicable to all OCE elements and all field operating agencies having Civil Works responsibilities.

§ 279.3 References.

(a) Pub. L. 89-72, "Federal Water Project Recreation Act," July 9, 1965 (79 Stat. 213 *et seq.*).

(b) ER 1105-2-200, Multiobjective Planning Framework (33 CFR part 290).

§ 279.4 Definitions.

For the purposes of this regulation:

(a) *Resource use objectives* are clearly written statements, specific to a given project, which specify the attainable options for resource use as determined from study and analysis of resource capabilities and public needs (opportunities and problems).

(b) *Natural resources* are those elements, features, conditions, etc., of land and water that can be characterized as physiographic, biological and/or aesthetic.

(c) *Public benefits* are the tangible and intangible gains to society directly attributable to a water resource project that satisfy the expressed or observed needs of the public (*i.e.*, individuals, groups, organizations and local, county, state and federal governmental agencies).

(d) *Boundary plans* are Division/District wide maps clearly delineating the limits of each regional recreation market area for one or more Civil Works water resource projects.

§ 279.5 Policy.

(a) It is the policy of the Chief of Engineers that all water resource projects administered by the Corps will have es-

tablished a set of resource use objectives. These objectives will be based upon the expressed preferences of the residents of the region served (social option) and will be in keeping with the capabilities of the natural and man-made resources of the specific project (resource option). A regional analysis is required to tailor each project to serve expressed preferences within its resource capabilities and consistent with Federal laws and administrative cost-sharing policy. Preparation of regional studies and establishment of these objectives will utilize an interdisciplinary team with leadership by planning, and participation from engineering, design, real estate, and operations elements. Each project will emphasize those specific resource use objectives determined, through public participation, to achieve the greatest overall public benefit. Subsequent aspects of planning, development, and management for the specific project will be directed to achieving the approved resource use objectives.

(b) The implementation of this policy requires that the public be fully involved in the regional studies and development of resource use objectives and management plans for each specific water resource project, including at least one public meeting. The establishment of resource use objective may be addressed at a general public meeting held for the project if adequate discussion can be achieved. If not, the district engineer should conduct a separate meeting for this purpose.

§ 279.6 Overview of objective setting process.

The process of determining resource use objectives flows through three overlapping steps and considers three main sets of data. Figure 1 presents an overview of this process.